



### The Power In Our HandsA Curriculum on the History of Work and Workers in the United States

The Zinn Education Project has just posted all the lessons from *The Power in Our Hands* by Bill Bigelow and Norm Diamond, published in 1988 by Monthly Review Press. The lessons are available to [download for free](#).

This comprehensive labor history curriculum is filled with **role plays, simulations, imaginative writing activities, poetry, first-person readings**, and more. In the spirit of Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*, the lessons in *The Power in Our Hands* encourage students—through their own active participation—to **recognize the struggles of ordinary workers to achieve justice at work and beyond.**

Pete Seeger praised this unique curriculum, saying that the *The Power in Our Hands* "is a way of **getting American teenagers not just interested, but excited and passionate about their history**—modern American labor history."

The Zinn Education Project is able to make this resource available through the generosity of individual donors as well as Monthly Review Press.

Here are a sample of the lessons now available.



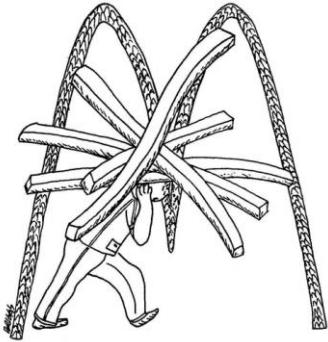
#### [Organic Goodie Simulation](#)

Lesson engages students in a lively simulation that helps them experience some of the pressures that lead workers to organize.



#### [The Homestead Strike](#)

This role play explores the possibility of solidarity among workers of very different backgrounds and at different levels in the workplace hierarchy.



### "Taylorizing Burgers": A Fantasy

In this playful activity, students utilize the principles of "scientific management" to restructure a burger joint—one that has been run a good deal more democratically and imaginatively.

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### Birth of a Rank-and-File Organizer

Writing activity for students to complete the narrative of women workers striking at a glove-making factory, exploring possible

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